

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator
Northeast Region
National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Ms. Kurkul:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Amendment 1 to the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (CEQ No. 20070540) in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The DEIS evaluates the potential impacts of the following proposed changes to the Fishery Management Plan: fishery and gear modification management measures and reduction of bycatch and fishing discard measures for target and non-target fish species. Based on our review of the DEIS, we have no objections to the proposed action and we are rating the proposal as LO-Lack of Objections.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this DEIS. The staff contact for this review is Matthew Harrington and he can be reached at (202) 564-7148.

Sincerely,

Anne Norton Miller
Director
Office of Federal Activities

cc: Steve Kokkinakis, NOAA Office of Strategic Planning